Cheyenne & Arapaho
TRIBAL TRIBUNE

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Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes partner with USDA to launch soil health project for land and climate

By Rosemary Stephens and Robert Hathorne

Governor Eddie Hamilton of the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes and Gary O'Neill, State Conservationist for the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Oklahoma announced Jan. 24, a groundbreaking agreement to harness and share the latest in conservation technologies to improve soil health and make Oklahoma's farms and ranches more resilient to changing markets and climate.

The new partnership will establish a demonstration farm on Tribal lands to showcase the effects of soil health practices such as no-till and cover crops to increase land productivity, reduce environmental impacts and build resiliency to drought and flood compared to conventional farming techniques.

"The Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes treasure our land and natural resources. We welcome the opportunity to improve our stewardship and build something even greater for the next generation," Hamilton said. "We feel it is a great event marking this agreement between the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services and the Cheyenne & Arapaho tribes. This project is going to be about restoring the health of our soils."

Working with the USDA NCRS, Farm and Ranch program Director Nathan Hart and USDA Climate Hub specialist Clay Pope spent hours and days bumping across miles of tribal land, inspecting vegetation and soil conditions and attending workshops on soil health. These actions led to the discus-

Partnership / *pg. 5*

Inauguration Day

Celebration or Trepidation?

By Rosemary Stephens
Editor-in-Chief

Being sworn in as the 45th President of the United States on Jan. 20, 2017, billionaire Donald Trump lists off all the 'firsts' of this administration.

The first billionaire president, the first immigrant first lady?

Technically, Trump is not the first billionaire president. That would be John F. Kennedy. And first immigrant first lady Melania Trump, technically that would have been President Andrew Jackson's wife, Rachel Jackson.

Following in his habit of misrepresentations, it would seem Trump will continue to put forth inaccurate statements as he enters the White House for the next four years.

Sparking controversy around the country with his first 100-day plan, it is unclear what the future holds for the country.

According to NPR, below is Trump's plan laid out in detail:

** First, propose a Constitutional Amendment to impose term limits on all members of Congress;*

** Second, a hiring freeze on all federal employees to reduce federal workforce through attrition (exempting military, public safety, and public health);*

** Third, a requirement that for every new federal regulation, two existing regulations must be eliminated;*

** Fourth, a five year-ban on White House and Congressional officials becoming lobbyists after they leave government service;*

**Fifth, a lifetime ban on White House officials lobbying on behalf of a foreign government;*

** Sixth, a complete ban on foreign lobbyists raising money for American elections.*

On the same day begin taking the following seven actions to protect American workers:

** First, I will announce my intention to renegotiate NAFTA or withdraw from the deal under Article 2205*

** Second, I will announce our withdrawal from the Trans-Pacific Partnership*

** Third, I will direct my Secretary of the Treasury to label China a currency manipulator*

** Fourth, I will direct the Secretary of Commerce and U.S. Trade Representative to identify all foreign trading abuses that unfairly impact American workers and direct them to use every tool under American and international law to end those abuses immediately*

** Fifth, I will lift the restrictions on the production of $50 trillion dollars' worth*

Inauguration / *pg. 5*

Saying goodbye after eight years in office, President Barak Obama and first lady Michelle Obama welcome incoming President Donald Trump and first lady Melania Trump to the White House on Jan. 20, 2017 (Courtesy photo)

Dr. Henrietta Mann, a living legend among the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes

By Rosemary Stephens
Editor-in-Chief

At 83 years of age, Dr. Henrietta Mann shows no signs of slowing down. Her hair pure white, her voice soft and gentle, with a sparkle in her eyes, she is a strong force to be reckoned with. And when most people her age and years younger are retiring, cutting back, Mann is still crossing the country teaching, speaking and advocating for Native American education and rights.

Her accomplishments and honors are far more than can be listed, founding President of the Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribal College, named one of the top ten professors in the nation by Rolling Stone magazine in 1991, inducted into the Southwestern Oklahoma State University's Hall of Fame in 1997, top honors from the American Indians in Science and Engineering Society in 2008 and in 1987 was named the National American Indian Woman of the Year, and earned the Lifetime Achievement Award from the national Indian Education Association … just to name a few.

But hers is a simple life, with a deep connection to her Cheyenne roots.

Mann is the great-granddaughter of White Buffalo Woman, a traditional healer who survived the atrocities of Sand Creek and the Washita Massacre. White Buffalo Woman was among those who went into the Cheyenne and Arapaho Agency at Darlington to begin living without the buffalo in a radically altered environment.

"The changes she experienced may have chipped at her hear but they never broke her spirit. Her lifeblood flows through my veins, just as it does for my daughters and granddaughters. I call it brave-hearted blood, tinctured with the will to live. I wish I knew what this matriarch whispered to me as she sat holding me in my cradle and what she willed into my very being in our years together. Our lives span 157 years from 1853 to today. She is the fundamental north direction on my life compass. What did she want me to see? What did she want me to become? I surmise she told me there is much to see on one's journey and prepared me for that call to service which has characterized my life," Mann stated in an excerpt from her life story published in the Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribal Tribune.

Even at the age of 5 Mann was determined to be a teacher and fulfilled that dream and beyond by becoming a university professor.

"My ride in education has been extraordinary for a Cheyenne from Hammon, Okla., population then, 469."

Mann taught Native American studies at the University of California, Berkley in the early 1970s, directed the American Indian Program at Harvard University's Graduate School of Education and served at the national coordinator of the American Indian Religious Freedom Coalition, becoming the first

Dr. Mann / *pg. 5*

Office of Veteran's Affairs holds VA meeting

By Latoya Lonelodge, Staff Reporter

Open opportunities are in store for the Cheyenne and Arapaho Office of Veteran Affairs (OVA) as they reach out to more veterans in need. On Jan. 19, a VA meeting was held at the Native American Church (NAC) in Concho, Okla. The primary discussion was to determine future plans the OVA has in store for benefitting tribal veterans.

"The purpose of having the VA meetings is to get information out from our program, we're creating some transparency and providing current up to date information about the VA to our veterans, Vietnam veterans, Korean War veterans, WWII veterans and Desert Storm veterans in Iraq and Afghanistan, those are veterans too from other wars. That's the main thing, to disseminate information and share knowledge and information," Rusell Willey, OVA director said.

Topics involving the Oklahoma Sales Tax Exempt, HUD-VASH and Supportive Services for Veterans Families (SSVF) were brought to light in an effort to accommodate benefit eligibility for veterans.

"We did have a veteran that was in our meeting today that is at 100 percent service connecting disability rating for the VA, so therefore he's eligible to be exempt from state taxes. He did get his tax card from the Oklahoma Tax Commission. He was sharing the knowledge of how he got that and how easy it was and what all it entails in his privileges. Once he got that tax ID card he got to go to Tinker Air Force base to the customer service area where they make ID's, they gave him base privileges to the Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR), the commissary and the Base Exchange. Those places are nice to shop at because they're tax free and they have a lot of good deals there," Willey said.

An additional privilege the tax-free exemption card features is that it also serves as a lifetime hunting and fishing license.

The HUD-VASH program is the Department of Housing and Urban Development combined with the Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing program. HUD-VASH works prominently to combat veterans who face homelessness.

"What they do is grant to our tribe to assist and combat homelessness. Veterans have to meet a certain criteria, the good thing about the program is that if they have any substance abuse problems, which a majority of them do have alcohol or drug problems, we can still do case management work with them and get them plugged in to rehab but they have to be willing to go through that. It's rental assistance like a rental voucher so that's what that is, Willey said.

Another program that assists with homelessness is the SSVF program, which is also partnered with the Goodwill of Oklahoma City. SSVF provides supportive services for low-income veteran families who are living in or transitioning to permanent housing. The tribal HUDVASH program only serves in Canadian County, Blaine County and Custer County.

With future plans still in store for the upcoming Memorial Day commemoration, small projects and big events are in the planning stages. Small projects underway are tribal army patches, coins and vests that will be made for tribal veterans. There are currently 168 veterans, including deceased veterans, that the OVA has helped assist, with more veterans still out there in need of help.

Office of Veteran Affairs Director Russell Willey holds up Tribal Veteran's vest in the process of being created. (Photo / Latoya Lonelodge)

"There's still a lot of work to do," Willey confirms.

The creation of tribal patches, coins and vests will serve as recognition for the OVA.

"We want to get our label out there and get recognition because it creates more awareness, people are going to say what is that and where is that patch from, that's from the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes veterans program."

By spreading awareness, opportunities arise and doors open from the OVA for tribal veterans in need.

"There's veterans out there that I see that don't have an honorable for whatever reason, but I would still like to get in front of that veteran and at least go over their DD 214 and explain to them and let them know there is an opportunity for an upgrade, doesn't mean that they're going to get it but the opportunity is there and I'm going to present that opportunity to them."

Honorable discharges receive a veteran's vehicle tag, tribal ID, getting their name on memorial wall and receiving a vest, Willey said.

"If there's any families out there that need assistance with getting DD 214s, helping their veteran claim benefits from the VA, please don't hesitate to give us a call. Even if we don't do anything, at least I know who you are and can create some awareness, there's a lot of people who don't talk until its too late."

The OVA plans for the next VA meeting to be held Thursday, April 13, 2017 12 p.m.

For more information contact the Cheyenne and Arapaho Office of Veteran Affairs at 405-422-7622.

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Election Commission formally announces 2017 elections

(CONCHO, OK) The following public offices of the Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribes are open for election in 2017:

Executive Office:
Governor
Lieutenant Governor
Legislative Office:
Arapaho District 1
Arapaho District 2
Cheyenne District 2
Cheyenne District 4
Election Commission:
Arapaho District 3
Arapaho District 4
Cheyenne District 1
Cheyenne District 3

Under consideration are the following fee increases for the 2017 elections:

Governor and Lt. Governor filling fees from $100 to $250/each

Legislative seats from $100 to $200/each

Election Commission seats from $50 to $100/each

Recall petitions from $100 to $300

Protests and challenges from $100 to $200

Voter registration is now open for updates to voter registration and registration for new voters. If you will be receiving an absentee ballot, the election commission office must have your current correct address. You may print the voter registration form at www.c-a-tribes.org, fill out and mail to Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribes Election Commission, PO Box 89, Concho, OK 73022.

For questions, additional information or to verify if your address is correct you may contact any of the following Election Commissioners:

Sarah Orange, 405-637-6036

Dale Hamilton 405-306-1674

Sandra Hinsaw 405-593-7944

Norma Yarbrough 405-538-6664

Stephanie Meat 405-664-9678

Sharon AllRunner 580-309-0768

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

May 1, 2017 Candidate registration for public office opens 9 a.m. Candidate registration for public office closes 5 p.m.

June 1, 2017 Last day FOR ALL VOTER REGISTRATIONS, new and changes to existing voter registrations by 5 p.m.

June 15, 2017 Announce the preliminary list of qualified candidates and eligible voters

July 14, 2017 Last day to file any challenges to the preliminary list of qualified candidates and eligible voters

Aug. 1, 2017 Election Commission decides all written challenges

Aug. 15, 2017 Announce the final list of candidates and eligible voters AND LAST day to request an absentee ballot

Oct. 3, 2017
PRIMARY ELECTION
Nov. 7, 2017
GENERAL ELECTION

VOTER REGISTRATION FORM (TO RIGHT)
The Election Commission has agreed to accept the form published to the right as submission for new voter registrations and updated address changes for voter registrations.
PLEASE CUT, FILL OUT AND MAIL TO:
C&A Election Commission, PO Box 89, Concho, Okla. 73022.

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA
OFFICIAL VOTER REGISTRATION FORM

Name_____ Maiden Name_____ Tribal Roll #_____ DOB_____

Telephone No _____ E-Mail (Optional) _____ Other Names Used_____

Mailing Address_____ City_____ State_____ Zip Code_____

Address of Residence **(if different than your mailing address)** _____

Are You a Current Registered Voter_____ If yes, what is your District ____ **(v) one:** Absentee ____ In Person_____

What type of Registration is this **(v)**: New_____ Name Change_____ Address Change_____ District Change _____

Update____Tribal Affiliation from _____to_____

DISTRICTS
Please check one if this is a New, District or Tribal Affiliation Change

Cheyenne		Arapaho
C-1 ____	Seiling, Watonga, Longdale, Canton	A-1 ____
C-2 ____	El Reno, Calumet, Kingfisher, Geary, Greenfield	A-2 ____
C-3 ____	Thomas, Deer Creek, Weatherford, Colony, Clinton	A-3 ____
C-4 ____	Hammon, Elk City	A-4 ____

In accordance with the "Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribes Constitution Article IX Sections 1 & 2":

A. Members of the Tribes age (18) eighteen or older shall be eligible to vote in an election;
B. Cheyenne voters shall register in the Cheyenne Districts in which they reside. Cheyenne voters who do not reside within a Cheyenne District shall register to vote in any Cheyenne District; provided that once registered in such District, the voter shall not be permitted to change districts unless he or she establishes residency in another Cheyenne District;
C. Arapaho voters shall register in the Arapaho Districts in which they reside. Arapaho voters who do not reside within a Arapaho District shall register to vote in any Arapaho District; provided that once registered in such District, the voter shall not be permitted to change districts unless he or she establishes residency in another Arapaho District;
D. A member of the tribes who possesses both Cheyenne and Arapaho blood shall register to vote in either a Cheyenne District or an Arapaho District, provided that such member may only change from a Cheyenne District to an Arapaho District or from an Arapaho District to a Cheyenne District, once;
E. A member who is properly registered to vote in a District shall not be required to re-register to vote unless the member establishes residency in another district or fails to vote in (2) two consecutive elections.

I certify I have read and understand the Cheyenne & Arapaho Constitution Article IX, Section 1 & 2 and all the information given is true and accurate.

Signed (Registered Voter) _____ Date_____

Election Commission Certification

Tribal member _____, Roll #_____ is a Eligible Registered Voter in the _____ District effective (date) _____.

Verified by (Election Commissioner)_____

Date Eligibility Receipt Mailed _____ E-Mailed_____ Seal

RETURN TO: C & A Tribes of Oklahoma, Election Commission, PO Box 89, Concho, OK 73022, 1-800-247-4612, ext 27619

Native American employee of the Dept. of Energy sues agency for race/national origin discrimination and retaliation

(WASHINGTON, D.C.) Jody TallBear, a well-respected Native American employee of the Department of Energy, brought suit yesterday to challenge retaliation she experienced when she sought to address a work environment hostile to Native Americans. The lawsuit was filed in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia against the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and raises claims of race and national origin discrimination, a hostile work environment, and retaliation.

TallBear began working for DOE in May 2011. She was hired to advance tribal and Native American engagement, programming and policy initiatives. Throughout her employment, Ms. TallBear was subjected to pervasive racially offensive imagery and language, including the frequent use of derogatory language regarding Native people and the posting of "redskins" images in her workplace.

Beginning in 2012, Ms. TallBear continually notified DOE leadership of the offensive language and imagery but DOE refused to take actions to address her concerns. In October 2015, DOE banned Ms. TallBear from educating DOE employees on Native American sensitivities related to Indian representations and retaliated against her. Despite years of exemplary performance, DOE leadership has ostracized and isolated her, stripped her of her title, job responsibilities, and derailed her career path. With nowhere else to turn, Ms. TallBear brings this action against DOE for hostile work environment and retaliation for advancing the civil rights of Native American employees to not be subjected to racial slurs and offensive images in their workplace.

"Our society frequently forgets the incredible violence that makes up our country's history with Native Americans, but we cannot forget that Native Americans deserve the same workplace protections as everyone else," said Dennis Corkery, Senior Staff Attorney. "We want to hold DOE accountable for how Ms. TallBear was treated and see them move forward with more inclusive and sensitive practices."

Venus McGhee Prince, co-counsel for Ms. TallBear adds, "as a senior policy advisor to the highest ranking diversity and civil rights official within DOE, Ms. TallBear has been leading positive change within DOE over the past four years by raising an awareness of the harmful impact that the 'redskins' language and imagery has on many Native Americans. All can agree that there is no harm to Ms. TallBear's efforts to educate federal employees and build a more sensitive work environment for herself and others, especially when it is part of her job duties. We hope that Ms. TallBear can ultimately resume this necessary and influential work."

Ms. TallBear is represented by the Washington Lawyers' Committee and Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP.

About the Washington Lawyers Committee

For more than 45 years, the Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs has handled thousands of cases representing individuals and groups seeking to vindicate their civil rights in the areas of employment, housing, public accommodations and other aspects of urban life. It represents people with claims of discrimination based on race, gender, national origin, disability, age, religion, sexual orientation, and military service and status. For more information, visit www.washlaw.org; or phone (202) 319-1000.

About Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP

Founded 155 years ago, Kilpatrick Townsend is a leading international AmLaw 100 firm with 18 offices extending into the four corners of the continental United States; Asia; and Europe, including: Atlanta, GA; Augusta, GA; Charlotte, NC; Dallas, TX; Denver, CO; Los Angeles, CA; Menlo Park, CA; New York, NY; Raleigh, NC; San Diego, CA; San Francisco, CA; Seattle, WA; Walnut Creek, CA; Washington, DC; Winston-Salem, NC; Shanghai; Stockholm; and Tokyo. For more information, please visit:www.kilpatricktownsend.com.

Jody TallBear is a Cheyenne & Arapaho citizen. Her grandfather is Randolph TallBear and her great-grandfather is Dewey TallBear.

Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribal Tribune
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2010-2016 NATIVE AMERICAN JOURNALIST ASSOCIATION MEDIA AWARD WINNER & 2012-2016 AWARD WINNER OF THE OPA BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST

Academy shoots for opportunities assisting student athletes

By Rosemary Stephens
Editor-in-Chief

For high school basketball athletes, that last senior night game becomes an avalanche of emotions. Walking out on that familiar basketball court, driving the ball down the lane, up for the lay up. Sometimes years of dribbling, practicing, shooting thousands of free throws from the line … just to end their senior year in high school.

Not if you're "on point." OnPoint Hoops Academy in El Reno, Okla. wants to give student athletes, who can make it to the next level, every opportunity to do just that.

OnPoint is a post grad academy, on-site training facility for student athletes who have graduated high school and who are looking to get basketball scholarships at the college level started by pro player and local resident Jonathan Reed.

"The two things I want to achieve in our program is for kids to at least know if they are capable of playing college basketball and keep pursuing this as a career," Reed said. "The other thing I want to achieve is to provide the opportunities for those who are good enough to play at the next level, who want to work hard at it and move forward. So either way it's a win-win situation. It's like I tell the parents that if your kid comes here and they aren't cut out for it, can't handle the work ethics, the grueling practices and everything else, then he or she will quit, go out and get a job or pursue some other career path. But if they can, we are going to provide all the opportunities for them to move forward."

And with Reed's extensive background and contacts within the sport of basketball he has the means to carry through. Reed graduated from El Reno High School in 1999 and began his basketball career at Cedar Valley Junior College where he won a National Championship in 2001. He continued at Arkansas State University and Clayton State University where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Communication and Media Studies.

After college he began his professional basketball career playing for the NBA Summer League in Long Beach, Calif., Worldwide Sports Professional tour in China and Switzerland, the Estonia Professional League and the Ireland Professional league where he was recognized as Player of the Year.

"We provide housing, meals, training, we set them up at Redlands Community College and they go to school part-time, we have a computer lab where they have access to online classes, tutoring and whatever help they need. We are always looking for opportunities and for sponsors. We are not government funded, and we have to raise all of our funding. We welcome business sponsors, corporate sponsors, and donations as well and we are not afraid of hard work to raise the funds needed to help kids have those opportunities to follow their dreams," Reed said.

Jonathan Reed, owner/operator of OnPoint Hoops Academy in El Reno, Okla., believes in giving student athletes opportunities to reach the next level of play. (Photo / Rosemary Stephens)

Currently OnPoint has seven international student athletes enrolled and a total of 14 students training.

"Our international players, their government helps them out a little bit for enhancement and player development. For Switzerland, for example, their kids get a couple thousand dollars to come over here to enhance their basketball careers and their educational opportunities and then return back to their country.

We have players here training from Angola, Switzerland, Sweden, Luxemburg, France and Italy," Reed said.

One of OnPoint's coaches and vice-president of operations Cheri Edwards said college scouts tend to like the academy because the student athletes are getting an extra year of high school so they get kids who have one extra year of experience and who can still play two to four years for them.

"We go out and play small colleges, junior college, community colleges, other prep schools and in most of these games the college scouts are there and they are looking," Edwards said.

Edwards has coached in the Texas Public School system and is from Tecumseh, Okla. She graduated from Tecumseh High School were she led the 1993 Lady Savages to its one and only state championship. She attended Oklahoma State University on a full basketball scholarship where she won numerous awards including the 1998 Student Athlete of the Year award for all OSU sports.

"Kids just have to apply, we don't really turn a lot of kids down because it's not just about a kid having the most talent. It's about getting to the highest level that certain kid can reach," Edwards said.

This year one of OnPoint's student athletes Terrell Beck signed with D1 school Penn State University, and Reed said it's just the beginning.

"We would like to see more kids coming from Oklahoma, more Native kids, willing to commit and put forth the work ethic to take their skills to the next level. There are a lot of talented kids, but they just don't want to put the work in and it takes a lot of hard work and discipline to take it to the next level.

This is an option for athletes, but a lot of people don't know about International play, the NCAA rules, etc. We get a lot of kids in California, and a lot of kids from the east coast," Reed said.

But Reed said there is never a shortage of kids who want an opportunity. It's more about finding the right kids to fit what they are providing, willing to commit to a team, commit to practices and really want to pursue a career.

"It takes a level of maturity to be able to go overseas and play professional basketball and live," Reed said.

"There are three different levels, there is a pro level, tours, traveling, fun stuff that everybody sees, then there's the prep level, the grind level, work level trying to reach that pro level and then there is the youth level. The level we give kids the opportunities to play, stay out of trouble and give them something to do."

And that youth level, Reed said, are kids from the neighborhoods, most of them underprivileged who wander in off the streets and just want to play and belong. He said he doesn't turn away any of them.

"We take them on the weekends and play in tournaments, feed them and that's just another component of the academy. It's not just a prep school for pro teams."

To learn more about OnPoint Hoops Academy visit www.onpointhoops.com or for more information on how to apply contact Jonathan Reed at 405-816-2806.

Secrets in Life and Death / Artist's work 'an epitaph of Native American extence"

By Lana Sweeten-Shults
Wichita Falls
Texas Times Record
Reprinted with Permission

"500 Years Violence."

"Purple Mountain Majesties."

"Poverty."

"Sadness."

"For Which It Stands."

"Happy to donate what you took."

And so go the words, biting and accusatory, melancholy, introspective and thoughtful, of Edgar Heap of Birds.

The Native American artist turns words into meaning.

Into feeling.

Into agitation.

And discussion.

Heap of Birds takes these words, seemingly innocent enough by themselves, and places them with another word and another, shuffling their order, then juxtaposing them against the American Founding Fathers' vocabulary of "liberty," "justice for all," "purple mountain majesties."

He tweaks them and nourishes them with centuries of connotation until they whisper and speak and scream of the Native American state of being.

It's this word art that makes up the bulk of his exhibit, "Secrets in Life and Death," at the Juanita Harvey Art Gallery in Midwestern State University's Fain Fine Arts Center. The exhibit Jan. 27.

"He's been using words almost exclusively in his art for almost 30 years," Juanita Harvey Gallery Director and professor of art Gary Goldberg said. "These are words, to the casual viewer, that look random. But they're ripped from Native American culture."

He added, "I think of his art as being signposts."

Just as signs caution people with words such as "Danger," "Stop" or "Poison," Goldberg said Heap of Birds' art gives similar direction and vital information, pointing out injustices without the benefit of an image outside of his gingerly constructed assembly of words and phrases.

"He sees himself as a provocateur and a disruptor," Goldberg said.

Heap of Birds, once an art professor who is now a professor of Native American studies at the University of Oklahoma, finds his voice in his experience as a Cheyenne/Arapaho.

"I grew up in Wichita, Kansas, so I have a lot of affinity with the Wichita. But I've been in Oklahoma since 1980, and my tribe is from here," he said.

He did not grow up on a reservation but in what he calls an urban Native community in Oklahoma City.

Yet he speaks with such clarity about the state of Native America.

His work does not tread lightly when it comes to American Indian social issues. He touches on poverty on the reservations, issues of health and the environment, and Native Americans' place in America.

What he wants to do, he said, is share the reality of being a Native person in America while touching on "the genocide and process of colonialism that damaged Indian nations and erased many of them."

And so his artwork, as much as it speaks of the times today, also reflects the history of Native Americans.

He is more than happy to tell you about Wichita, Kansas, and Wichita Falls, Texas, and the origin of those cities' names.

"I work a lot off tribal history," he said of his art.

One of his signpost-styled prints will have particular meaning to anyone who lives here.

It is a panel in bright red that conveys the names: "Huaco (pronounced Waco), Keechi, Taovaya, Tawakoni, Wichita and Kitikitish."

"It is important because it deals with how the word Wichita is one subtribe and one name the government used," Heap of Birds said. "... All of those are actually the same tribe, in a sense."

Wichita refers to more than one tribe. It is a confederation of Native Americans in Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas, all of whom spoke the Wichita language, a Caddoan language. Kitikitish, he said, is the name the people called themselves.

Part of the reason Heap of Birds said he travels to so many different places is "to help people understand where they really are (where they live)." Oftentimes, he said, people are not familiar with the history of the place they live.

"It's kind of sad Americans don't understand much about where they are," he said.

Heap of Birds gives voice to that history, one seemingly difficult to find, considering Native Americans' sparse written history.

Still, "It's available," the artist said. "I guess it's just having interest to go see it."

The print that encompasses all the names of the Wichita people is one he made about two months ago in Hawaii, he said, in anticipation of his trip here.

"I'm trying to honor the original people."

The title of his exhibit, "Secrets in Life and Death," relates to that one print of the Wichita people. "It's like there's these secrets (like the history of the name Wichita Falls) that people should know."

Heap of Birds' show is an amalgam of several bodies of his work: hand-blown glass works from his time in Murano, Italy; pieces from his Neuf Series paintings, created in Oklahoma City; and monoprints made in Los Angeles, California and Santa Fe in a body of work called "Genocide and Democracy," which speaks to the seeming invisibility of indigenous communities in democratic systems because of low population and tribes scattered across the country.

Heap of Birds said in his artist's statement for "Genocide and Democracy" how more than 100 million indigenous people lost their lives in the Americas because of their contact with Euro-colonizers and how they are trying to recover.

HARVEST
NATIVES BURNED VANISH LIKE VENTED FLAME
BLESSINGS CEASE OUR PAIN JUSTICE FOR ALL
RED SKIN BOUNTY TIS OF THE
U.S.
500 YEARS VIOLENCE PURPLE MOUNTAIN MAJESTIES
AFTER NATIVE GENOCIDE U.S. PROUD DEMOCRACY
SITTER ACHE PAIN ABOVE FRUITED PLANE
POVERTY SADNESS FOR WHICH IT STANDS
INDIAN HEALTH DECAY TWILIGHTS LAST GLEAMING
NATIVES SURVIVE INSPITE OF THE EMPIRE

Ninety percent of the exhibit is monoprints, 16 by 22 inches, shown in groups of 4, 8 or 16.

What unites the pieces is the color blue, except for one group of prints in red.

Blue references the sky and water - natural elements Native Americans hold dear.

For the red prints, Heap of Birds said he sees his work as "an epitaph of the Native existence," which is the reason for the blood red color.

The Murano glass honors Native warriors and their families who died traveling to Europe as part of late 19th century Wild West shows organized by William "Buffalo Bill" Cody. Included on the glass are images of warriors.

About four abstract acrylic paintings in the show are from Heap of Birds' Neuf series. Neuf means "four" in Cheyenne. The number is significant in that it references certain ceremonies, done in four intervals, and the Cheyenne council of 44 peace chiefs.

The artist used layers and layers of paint to create shapes reminiscent of the landscape of the Cheyenne and Arapaho reservations. Viewers might see the arroyos or clouds floating in the sky when viewing the paintings.

The exhibit also includes four sign panels.

Goldberg said the images in the exhibit are likely to come with a bit of controversy.

"Unless you really go into it (indigenous history and concerns), we've been sanitized as a country," Goldberg said.

Heap of Birds' exhibit does the opposite; it does not sanitize that history.

Goldberg said Heap of Birds is one of the top two or three Native American artists in the United States and his exhibit is a powerful one.

"In art in general, he is way up there."

Partnership

continued from pg. 1

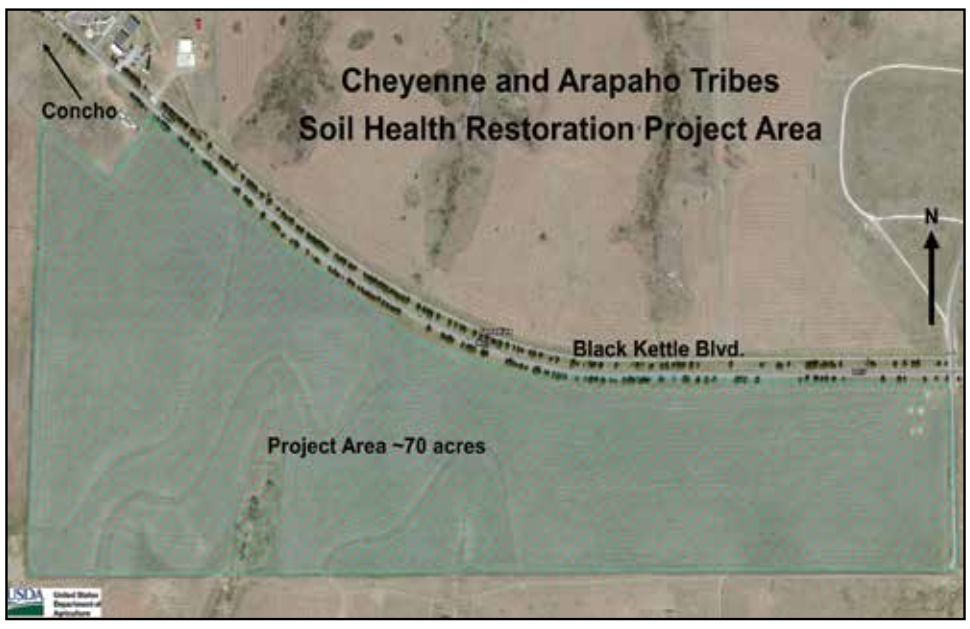
sions of putting into plan how the tribes were going to use the latest techniques of soil management on their acreage. Thus a 70 acre demonstration plot located on the Concho campus.

"The aim here is to restore the health of the soils and the soils support for us, particularly, are the grazing lands for our buffalo. If you start with healthy soils you will produce good vegetation, which we need for the buffalo. In turn the buffalo becomes a food source for our tribal citizens in the Diabetes Wellness Program. It all starts with soil health, so using the latest techniques for restoring the soils is what these demonstration plots are going to do," Hart said.

When the farm is fully established this spring, the tribes will host public demonstrations of both how to implement the latest in soil health practices as well as how these practices benefit ranching operations and the environment. NRCS soil and ecological scientists along with key staff from USDA's El Reno Climate hub will provide expert analysis and presentations in support of the tribes' outreach activities

"Native American tribes have a tremendous capacity to implement effective conservation on a large scale in Oklahoma. We jumped at the chance to work with the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes on this. Through their leadership, both tribal and non-tribal farmers and ranchers will gain increased access to the knowledge and resources they need to be successful. If we're going to be serious about improving soil health and making farming operations more sustainable, we've got to build new partnerships and work with everyone," O'Neill said.

Years of drought interjected by floods have pushed many Oklahoma farmers to turn to soil health practices in an effort to retain more soil moisture, protect soil from erosion or even just to stay in business. But the impacts of soil health reach far beyond the farm.



"Farmers and ranchers need to do all they can to harden their operations to extreme weather events. We appreciate the partnership with the Cheyenne & Arapaho Nation and all our other partners in USDA in putting together what is the first tribal soil health demonstration program not only in Oklahoma but from my understanding the entire United States. Working together I think we can not only help tribal members but all people in the state of Oklahoma take advantage of some of these new strategies in improving the health of the soil. I think it's fitting that the Cheyenne & Arapaho lead the way in this with their historic ties to the land," Pope said.

Studies have shown that just a one percent increase in organic matter can triple the soils water holding capacity, thus increasing the ability to hold on to sub-soil moisture and better weather droughts. The same practices that increase organic matter also help control erosion, so when there are heavy rains, we hold on to our topsoil. These same practices; no-till, cover crops and better pasture management also sequester carbon and use less diesel, helping fight climate change while saving money and protecting water quality by controlling erosion and run-off. It's a win-win for both agriculture producers and the environment, Pope said.

Future announcements for the first workshops and demonstrations on the 70-acre demonstration plot will be announced in the spring.

Cheyenne & Arapaho Governor Eddie Hamilton and Oklahoma State Conservationist Gary O'Neill discuss the exciting new agreement between the tribes and USDA NCRS for the first of its kind soil health demonstrationn farm at Concho, Okla. (Photo / Rosemary Stephens)

Dr. Mann

continued from pg. 2

person to occupy the Katz Endowed Chair in Native American Studies at Montana State University.

Mann likens Indian education to a cold war stating, "The war may be over for me but the battles are not. I am engaged in the biggest battle of my career. I continue to battle feelings of hopelessness and powerlessness among our youth. I battle economic and political misunderstandings. I battle scarcity of resources and self-fulfilling prophecies ingrained by the stereotypes of the majority of western Oklahoma. When I find myself wallowing in despair and frustration, my compass point swings to the true north. I think of White Buffalo Woman and the battles she experienced along Sand Creek and the Washita, Lodge Pole River, to us. I think of the cultural and environmental changes she witnessed in her 85-year journey from Wyoming Territory, the expanding doctrine of Manifest Destiny and the assertion of white sovereignty, to the introduction of a foreign from of education and finally to home in Indian Territory."

Many who have had the honor and privilege of hearing Mann speak never forget her dignity, her grace and the power of her words spoken ever so softly.

Montana State University President Waded Cruzado said that Mann's ability to stand easily in both the Native and the academic worlds have allowed her an unprecedented impact in promoting respect and understanding across the world of Native American culture, history and spirituality.

"I once heard her called the 'Native Maya Angelou,' and for good reason," Cruzado said. "To hear Dr. Mann speak is to never forget her grace and power."

Inauguration day

continued from pg. 1

of job-producing American energy reserves, including shale, oil, natural gas and clean coal.

** Sixth, lift the Obama-Clinton roadblocks and allow vital energy infrastructure projects, like the Keystone Pipeline, to move forward*

** Seventh, cancel billions in payments to U.N. climate change programs and use the money to fix America's water and environmental infrastructure*

Additionally, on the first day, Trump stated he would take the following five actions to restore security and the constitutional rule of law:

**Cancel every unconstitutional executive action, memorandum and order issued by President Obama.*

**Begin the process of selecting a replacement for Justice Scalia from one of the 20 judges on my list, who will uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States.*

**Cancel all federal funding to Sanctuary Cities.*

**Begin removing the more than 2 million criminal illegal immigrants from the country and cancel visas to foreign countries that won't take them back.*

**Suspend immigration from terror-prone regions where vetting cannot safely occur. All vetting of people coming into our country will be considered extreme vetting.*

Next, Trump stated he will work with Congress to introduce the following broader legislative measures and fight for their passage within the first 100 days of his Administration:

Middle Class Tax Relief And Simplification Act. An economic plan designed to grow the economy four percent per year and create at least 25 million new jobs through massive tax reduction and simplification, in combination with trade reform, regulatory relief, and lifting the restrictions on American energy. The largest tax reductions are for the middle class. A middle-class family with two children will get a 35 percent tax cut. The current number of brackets will be reduced from seven to three, and tax forms will likewise be greatly simplified. The business rate will be lowered from 35 to 15 percent, and the trillions of dollars of American corporate money overseas can now be brought back at a 10 percent rate.

End The Offshoring Act. Establishes tariffs to discourage companies from laying off their workers in order to relocate in other countries and ship their products back to the U.S. tax-free.

American Energy & Infrastructure Act. Leverages public-private partnerships, and private investments through tax incentives, to spur $1 trillion in infrastructure investment over 10 years. It is revenue neutral.

School Choice And Education Opportunity Act. Redirects education dollars to give parents the right to send their kid to the public, private, charter, magnet, religious or home school of their choice. Ends common core, brings education supervision to local communities. It expands vocational and technical education, and make two and four-year college more affordable.

Repeal and Replace Obamacare Act. Fully repeals Obamacare and replaces it with Health Savings Accounts, the ability to purchase health insurance across state lines, and lets states manage Medicaid funds. Reforms will also include cutting the red tape at the FDA: there are over 4,000 drugs awaiting approval, and we especially want to speed the approval of life-saving medications.

Affordable Childcare and Eldercare Act. Allows Americans to deduct childcare and elder care from their taxes, incentivizes employers to provide on-side childcare services, and creates tax-free Dependent Care Savings Accounts for both young and elderly dependents, with matching contributions for low-income families.

End Illegal Immigration Act. Fully-funds the construction of a wall on our southern border with the full understanding that the country Mexico will be reimbursing the United States for the full cost of such wall; establishes a two-year mandatory minimum federal prison sentence for illegally re-entering the U.S. after a previous deportation, and a five-year mandatory minimum for illegally re-entering for those with felony convictions, multiple misdemeanor convictions or two or more prior deportations; also reforms visa rules to enhance penalties for overstaying and to ensure open jobs are offered to American workers first.

Restoring Community Safety Act. Reduces surging crime, drugs and violence by creating a Task Force On Violent Crime and increasing funding for programs that train and assist local police; increases resources for federal law enforcement agencies and federal prosecutors to dismantle criminal gangs and put violent offenders behind bars.

Restoring National Security Act. Rebuilds our military by eliminating the defense sequester and expanding military investment; provides Veterans with the ability to receive public VA treatment or attend the private doctor of their choice; protects our vital infrastructure from cyber-attack; establishes new screening procedures for immigration to ensure those who are admitted to our country support our people and our values

Clean up Corruption in Washington Act. Enacts new ethics reforms to Drain the Swamp and reduce the corrupting influence of special interests on our politics.

Not mentioned in this plan, but currently being pursued by Trump's administration is the elimination of grants specifically assisting victims of Domestic Violence. On his chopping block for cuts are 25 Dept. of Justice Violence Against Women grant programs which include STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program, Sexual Assault Services Formula Grant Program, State and Territorial Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Coalitions Program ad Grants to Tribal Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Coalitions Program, to name a few.

Shrouded in uncertainty and unchartered territory, time will tell whether Jan. 20, 2017 was a day of celebration or a day of trepidation.

BRIEFS AT A GLANCE

The 2017 Native Diabetes Prevention Conference

Feb. 12-15, 2017 at the Hilton Phoenix/Mesa in Phoenix, Ariz. For more information or to register visit www.aii.ou.edu.

Audit Preparation for Tribes and Tribal Organizations

Feb. 13-14, 2017 in Las Vegas, Nev. For more information or to register visit www.falmouthinstitute.com.

Tribal Financial Oversight Certification

Feb. 15-17, 2017 in Las Vegas, Nev. For more information or to register visit www.falmouthinstitute.com.

The 2017 UNITY Mid-Year Conference

Feb. 17-20, 2017 at the Tempe Mission Palms Hotel & Conference Center in Tempe, Ariz. Cost is $175. For more information call 480-718-9793 or to register visit www.events@unityinc.org.

Family Law in Indian Country-A Comparative Approach

Feb. 21-22, 2017 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Las Vegas, Nev. For more information or to register visit www.falmouthinstitute.com.

The 2017 National American Indian Housing Council Legislative Conference

March 6-8, 2017 at the Washington Court Hotel in Washington, D.C. For more information or to register visit www.naihc.net.

The National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development Economic Summit

March 13-16, 2017 at the Mirage Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas, Nev. For more information or to register visit www.res.ncaied.org.

Robert Rules of Order

March 20-22, 2017 in Las Vegas, Nev. For more information or to register visit www.falmouthinstitute.com.

Indian Land Foundation-Seventh Tribal Land Staff National Conference

March 21-23, 2017 at the Tamaya Resort and Spa in Santa Ana Pueblo, N.M. For more information or to register visit www.ncai.org.

The National Indian Child Welfare Association's 35th annual Protecting Our Children National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect

April 2-5, 2017 in San Diego, Calif. For more information or to register visit www.nicwa.org.

Federal Bar Association's Indian Law Conference

April 6-7, 2017 at the Talking Stick Resort in Scottsdale, Ariz. For more information or to register visit www.fedbar.org.

NIGA Indian Gaming Tradeshow and Convention

April 10-13, 2017 at the San Diego Convention Center in San Diego, Calif. For more information or to register visit www.ncai.org.

EATING healthy for DIABETES

Tara Conway, MS, RD, LD, CDE
C&A Diabetes Wellness Program

February is National Heart Month

About 610,000 people die of heart disease in the United States every year- that's 1 in every 4 deaths.

Heart disease is the leading cause of death for both men and women. More than half the deaths due to heart disease in 2009 were men. For Native Americans heart disease is second only to cancer. It is chronic and develops over years.

High blood pressure, high cholesterol and smoking are key risk factors for heart disease. About half of Americans (47%) have at least one of these three risk factors. Persons age 40 to 60 are at risk for heart disease. Other medical conditions and life style choices can also put people at a higher risk for heart disease. These include: diabetes, overweight and obesity, poor diet, physical inactivity and excessive alcohol use.

What is cardiovascular disease?

Heart and blood vessel disease includes numerous problems, many which are related to a problem called atherosclerosis. Atherosclerosis is a condition when a substance called plaque builds upon the walls of the arteries from fats, cholesterol and other substances. That buildup narrows the arteries making it harder for blood to flow through. If a blood clot forms, it can stop the blood flow and cause a heart attack or stroke.

Dietary factors that contribute to heart disease include cholesterol, triglycerides, fats (trans fats and hydrogenated fats) and saturated fats, fast food and fried foods. Your body produces cholesterol, so it is important to eat 300 mg of cholesterol or less a day. Triglycerides in your blood are derived from farts eaten in foods or make in the body from other energy sources like carbohydrates. Calories ingested in the meal are used immediately by tissues, and converted to triglycerides and transported to fat cells to be stored.

In your diet you want to include more unsaturated fat (good fat) such as monounsaturated and polyunsaturated foods such as salmon, trout, herring, avocadoes, walnuts, liquid oils such as canola, olive and soybean. Saturate fat (bad fat) is found in food such as beef, veal, beef fat, lamb, pork, lard products made from 2% milk such as cheese, butter, cream and milk. Saturated fat is also in fried foods.

Grain choices include whole grain breads, and whole wheat hamburger or hot dog buns, brown rice and pasta, cooked cereals and low fat crackers. You want to choose less commercial baked goods, doughnuts, pastries, muffins, croissants, biscuits, egg noodles, granola type cereals, fry bread and high fat crackers.

Most people consume at least 400 calories a day in sugar sweetened beverages which contributes to high triglycerides. Try drinking more water and less sugar sweetened beverages and eat more fresh fruits and vegetables, 1% or skim dairy products

For more information and tips on eating contact Tara Conway @ Diabetes Wellness Program 405-422-7685 oremail tconwa@ca-tribes.org.

Source: CDC, www..cdc.gov/heartdisease/facts.htm

Tsistsistas Hinonoei

1 - na'éstse	1 – ceeséi
2 - neše	2 – niis
3 - na'he	3 – nééso
4 - néve	4 – yein
5 - noho	5 - yoo3ón
6 - naesohto	6 – níítootox
7 - nésohto	7 – níísootox
8 - na'nóhto	8 – nééesootox
9 - sóohto	9 - 3ío'tox
10 - máhtóhto	10 – béteetox

www.facebook.com/Cheyenne-Arapaho-Language

Easy Chili

2 lbs. ground beef
1 medium onion, diced
1 bell pepper, diced
2 tablespoons chili powder
2 cans tomato sauce
2 cans pinto beans
2 cans kidney beans
2 cans black beans
2 cans tomatoes
2 cans water (use tomatoe sauce cans)
Optional Topping: cheese and sour cream

In a skillet cook ground beef, onions, bell peppers until done. Drain ecess grease. In a stockpot add ground beef mixture, cans of beans, water, tomatoes, tomato sauce and chili powder.
Simmer 15 minutes.
Top with cheese and sour cream.

Chief Cornerstone Baptist Church appoints interim pastor

Pictured (L to R): Pastor De Brown, All Nations Baptist Church in Kingfisher, Pastor Gerald Watson, Weatherford Indian Baptist Church, Pastor Delfred Whitecrow, Elk City Indian Baptist Church, Pastor Jay Mule, Chief Cornerstone Baptist Church in Geary, Thelma Kauahquo, C&A Baptist Association Secretary/Treasurer and Pastor Willie Doyeto, El Reno Indian Baptist Church.

Chief Cornerstone Baptist Church, located at 300 N. Broadway in Geary, Okla., recently appointed interim Pastor Jay Mule to the position of Pastor. Planning for the spring include monthly fellowship dinners scheduled for Feb. 5, March 5, April 2 and May 7 (every first Sunday of each month).

Sunday School is held every Sunday at 10 a.m. and regular services begin at 11 a.m. There is an updated Facebook Page for news and announcements. For information about Chief Cornerstone Baptist Church, email jaymule@hotmail.com or call 580-340-1672.

On Jan. 21 the C&A Baptist Executive Board also welcomed Brother Jay Mule as the Interim Director of Missions (DM).

Veteran's Venue

Veterans of the United States Armed Forces may be eligible for a broad range of benefits and services provided by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). These benefits are codified in Title 38 of the United States Code. This booklet contains the most commonly requested VA benefits and services.

This booklet is a brief overview of the commonly sought information concerning Veterans benefits. For the most accurate information, Veterans and family members should visit the websites provided within this publication as regulations, payments, and eligibility requirements are subject to change.

For additional information, please visit www.va.gov.

To find the nearest VA facility, Call the Cheyenne & Arapaho Office of Veterans Affairs (OVA) 405.422-7724 or toll free 1-800-827-1000.

General Eligibility:

Eligibility for most VA benefits is based upon discharge from active military service under other than dishonorable conditions. Active service means full-time service, other than active duty for training, as a member of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, or as a commissioned officer of the Public Health Service, Environmental Science Services Administration, or National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration or its predecessor, the Coast and Geodetic Survey. Dishonorable and bad conduct discharges issued by general courts-martial may bar VA benefits. Veterans in prison must contact VA to determine eligibility. VA benefits will not be provided to any Veteran or dependent wanted for an outstanding felony warrant.

Important Documents:

In order to expedite benefits delivery, Veterans seeking a VA benefit for the first time must submit a copy of their service discharge form (DD Form214, DD Form 215, or for World War II Veterans, a WD form). If you need to re-order your military records please call or come by the Concho OVA office.

The OVA office conducted its first Veteran's meeting this calendar year on Jan. 19 at. Topics discussed weere OVA Resolutions(see Public Hearing Notices) 2017 Budget & OVA Fund Raiser, Discharge Upgrades, SSVF & Tribal HUDVASH HOMELESS Programs.

The Next scheduled Veteran's meeting will be held at 12 p.m., Thursday, April 13, 2017 at the Concho Native American Church bldg.

For more information call Director of Veteran Services Russell Willey at 405-422-7724 or 405-248-7520, or email at lwilley@c-a-tribes.org

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POWWOWS & EVENTS CALENDAR

Office of the Tribal Council Community Meetings

All meetings will be held 6-8 p.m.

Feb. 2 at the Geary Community Center in Geary, Okla.

Feb. 7 at the Watonga Community Center in Watonga, Okla., and

Feb. 9 at the Canton Community Center in Canton, Okla. For more information call 405-422-7430.

Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribes' Foster Home Recruitment

11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Feb. 10 at the Clinton Community Center in Clinton, Okla. Food and drinks will be provided.

For more information or for a foster home application packet call 405-422-7592 or 405-422-8951.

Veteran's Benefit Gourd Dance

3-10 p.m. Feb. 11, 2017 at the Clinton Community Center in Clinton, Okla. Supper served 5-6 p.m. Giveaways for head staff.

MC Eddie Wilson, U.S. Army, HGD Melvin Miles, USMC, HLD Sue Whiteshield, US Navy, HS Fred Mosqueda, AD Roy Bates and Honored Veteran Darrell Flyingman, USMC.

Sponsored by the Cheyenne & Arapaho American Legion Post 401.

The 85th Barefoot Powwow / Sweetheart Benefit Dance

Saturday, Feb. 11 at the Watonga Community Center in Watonga, Okla. Gourd dance 4 p.m., supper 6 p.m. Two-step contest and potato dance.

MC Asa Littlebird, HS O.T. Sankey, HMD Roy Dean Bullcoming, HLD Theresa Kiley, HLB Jarrett Snow (10), HLG Happy Shortman (9), AD Elvin Kendrick and Host Red Moon Gourd Clan.

For more information contact Lynn LittleHawk at 580-447-1904.

The 11th annual Oklahoma City University Spring Contest Powwow

April 1, 2017 at the Freede Wellness Center, NW 27th Street and Florida Avenue in Oklahoma City. Free admission, doors open at noon.

Submit your event to be published in the Calendar by email rmstephens@c-a-tribes.org or by calling 405-422-7446.

In Loving Memory

Letha Gail Howlingcrane Wahnee, lovingly known as "Gummy" by family and friends, was born on July 29, 1935 in Thomas, Okla. She passed from this life on Jan. 22, 2017 after a courageous battle due to complications related to Diabetes.

She was born to her mother Lillian Jeanette Riggs Howlingcrane and her father James Howlingcrane. Her mother was the daughter of Stacy Lonewolf Riggs, grandson of Chief Black Kettle who was a survivor of the Sand Creek Massacre. She graduated from Clinton High School and later became a registered Medical Technologist. She worked at hospitals and laboratories in the Dallas area since 1964 until her retirement from Doctor's Hospital in 2007. She was known for her exemplary work ethic, which she instilled in her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. She loved to travel as she competed in many Native American powwow dance competitions across the nation.

Letha was a long time member of St. David's Episcopal Church in Garland Texas. Her spirit of generosity and caring ways was exemplified in her donations and support for Native American Rights and Movements. She was a member of the Native American Indian Women's Association and supported the American Indian Education Program of Dallas. Her leadership and dedication of the Native American Youth and Education continues through her family.

She is survived by her companion Riley Royce Wahnee of Mesquite, Texas and her children and their spouses, Terri Mack McClung of the home, Anita L. Mack and husband Jerrold W. White of Prague, Okla., Christopher R. Wahnee, Toni Alise Wahnee and husband, Enoc Morales of Las Vegas, Nev., 12 grandchildren, Lance McClung, Vanessa Tomahsah, Melanie Ahtone, John Edgar McClung, James Robert Thorne, Benjamin, Elias and Jacob White, Michael and Marcos Gutierrez, Nicole Hernandez and Christopher W. Wahnee. Eighteen great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandson Josiah Wade Finchum, and a host of nieces and nephews. She had many extended family members in Dallas that she loved and adopted as her own.

She was preceded in death by her parents James and Jeanette Howlingcrane, her sister Juanita Howlingcrane Onco Tahah, brother James "Tony" Howlingrane and great-granddaughter Jolie Fox Thorne.

Robert Perry "Bobby" Tabor was born on April 13, 1945 in Geary, Okla. to Oscar Washing Hands and Rose (Lumpmouth) Tabor. He passed away on Jan. 21, 2017 in Oklahoma City at the age of 71.

Robert graduated from Haskell High School in 1965 in Lawrence, Kansas. He served in the Signal Corp US Army SP 4 from 1967-1970. Robert was a lab and x-ray tech, truck driver, bus driver for metro transit and was instrumental in purchasing the Sand Creek Massacre land in Colorado. Robert served as Arapaho Chief in Arapaho tradition. He was a member of the Cornerstone Baptist Church in Geary, Okla.

Survivors include his wife Colleen Tabor of the home, his children, Robyn Castillo of Texas, Melissa Turner of Okemah, Okla., Bobbi Sue Tabor of Pawnee, Okla., Robert Tabor Jr. of Pawnee, Okla., Joel Tabor of Pawnee, Okla., Janet Tabor of El Reno, Okla., Rani Tabor of Oklahoma City, Feather Tabor of Calumet, Okla., Lydia Tabor of Calumet, Okla., Joann Leflore of N.M., John Leflore of Oklahoma City and Donald Leflore of Geary, Okla., 38 grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren, his siblings, Lucille Tabor Todd of Maple, Okla., Peggy Tabor Dawson of Oklahoma City and Lionel Tabor of Geary, Okla., as well as many other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Oscar and Rose Tabor, his children, John Tabor, Tish Haag, his grandsons, Delos Tabor Bear and Dakota Eagle, his siblings, Mildred Tabor Falls, Jack Tabor, and Daryl Tabor.

An all night wake service was held Jan. 24 in Geary, Okla. Funeral services were held Jan. 25 at the Roc of Restoration Church officiated by Rev. George Akeen and Rev. Jay Mule.

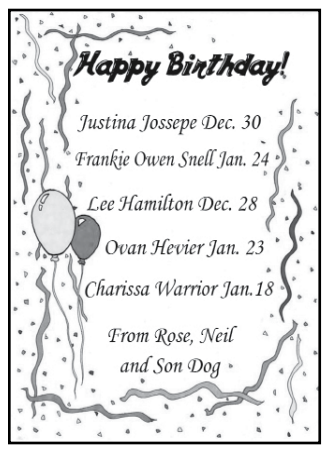
Happy Birthday!

Feb. 2
Leatrice Gonzalez
Happy Birthday and many more!
I love you mommy!
-Codi

In loving memory
Rino Foster
In memorial to my son,
Ryan Dexter Foster
Jan. 19, 1973 to
Sept. 5, 2012.
Not a day goes by that I don't shed a tear for you. You were one great guy who knew a lot! Very ornery, but quite intelligent!
We all miss you, Happy Birthday son!
Love, ma, Derek, Son Dog, Dacia Jill, Emily Nellie, Rose, Jo, Carol, H, Clair, & Mary, JR, Daris, Mandy, McKinley & Dan.

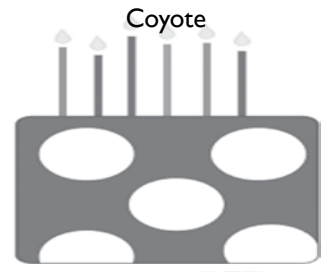
Jan. 23
Happy Belated Birthday to my one and only beautiful daughter Dash Penn—May you have many more blessed years to come your way! We love you! Ma, Derek & Son Dog newphews JR, Daris, Mandy, McKinley, Dan, & Emily Nellie Foster!

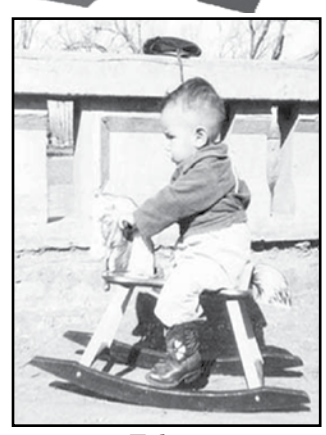
January 25th
Cornell Sankey
Happy Birthday
Nephew! You made it!
May you have many more birthdays to come.
We love you!
Auntie Rose, Neil, Carol, Jo, H, Clair and Tweet, Son Dog, Derek and Dacia Jill.


Happy Birthday!
Justina Jossepe Dec. 30
Frankie Owen Snell Jan. 24
Lee Hamilton Dec. 28
Ovan Hevier Jan. 23
Charissa Warrior Jan.18
From Rose, Neil and Son Dog

Jan. 23
Happy Birthday to Son Dog, my handsome son! You are an awesome person who is always doing for others—very helpful! Love you!
Ma, Derek, Dacia Jill, Rose, Carol, Jo, H, Clair, & Tweet

Feb. 8
Happy 7th Birthday
Cameron Lee Little Coyote
Grateful Ma'heo chose me to be your grandma
You have a big kind heart for someone your age and how you love being Cheyenne.
Love you with all my heart,
Grandma Karen Little Coyote





Feb. 5
Happy birthday
Bill Lamebull
Born in Lawton
Raised in Del City
Educated in Norman
Worked & retired from General Motors (G.M.)
Goes to O.U.-TX game in Dallas every year.
Happy Birthday from
Bobby Joe

Happy 9th Birthday to our baby Eryn Violet Ruth Roman Nose
You bring us so much joy and laughter.
We love you and hope you have the best day!!!
Daddy, Mommy, Chelle, Evan, and Carter

Happy 65th Birthday Sue
Together for eight & married for seven years and wishing for many more.
Love, Jamez

Central Hair & Nail Salon
Haircuts Perms Color Wax
3518 N. MacArthur Blvd.
Oklahoma City
Tues-Fri 10:30-6:30
Sat. 10-6
Georgia Moore McGee
Cell 405.248.6646
Salon 405.943.1819

February 2017
Cheyenne and Arapaho
Language Calendar
Language
February 6th Canton 4:00pm Community Hall
February 7th Clinton 5:30pm Community Hall
February 7th Geary 6:30pm Community Hall
February 9th Watonga 5:30pm Community Hall
February 14th Geary 6:30pm Community Hall
February 16th Hammon 4:00pm Community Hall
February 21st Geary 6:30pm Community Hall
February 23rd Seiling 4:00pm Community Hall
February 28th Geary 6:30pm Community Hall
#SPEAKYOURLANGUAGE

C E C O O Y O O N O W
A W H M R R Y J J V D
A T O E T O N E T O L
E X D O S D R O J I X
E C E C W T O G I R Y
M N B L Y Y A I B R Z
O D Y N O X H S R D L
N D R 3 N Y M P E J T
A Y O N K D M Q V G Y
E O Z M M X N T W T T

Tooyo3oo
Wonooyoocec
Woow
Hiii
Cec
Aaeemonae
Etoneto
Hestase

Arapaho
It is cold- Tooyo3oo
New Year- Wonooyoo' cec
Ice- Wo'ow
Snow- Hiii
Winter- Cec

Cheyenne
New Years – Āā'e émóna'e
It is cold – É-tonéto
Snow – Hésta'se
Ice – Má'ome
Winter - Aéneve

Find The Hidden Words

To learn about monthly language classes call 405-422-7569 or email rrisenhoover@c-a-tribes.org

EMPLOYMENT

Employment: Submit a tribal application, resume, diploma(s), transcripts, valid copy of Oklahoma state driver's license and a copy of CDIB (if applidable) to Personnel Department, PO Box 38, Concho, OK 73022 or email atisdale@c-a-tribes.org.

Operations & Maint. Housing Authority
Closing: Until Filled

Qualifications:

Must have high school diploma or GED certification. Must have at least one-year experience in facility operations and maintenance. Must have valid Oklahoma driver's license. Must be able to comply with Drug Free Workplace Act and applicable tribal policies. Cheyenne and Arapaho preference.

SALARY: Negotiable

Victims Advocate II Domestic Violence
Closing: Until Filled

Qualifications:

High school diploma and associate degree. Two years of documented experience in public service position. Substitutions of experience for education may be made only for the associate degree. Ability to perform necessary duties after normal business hours on a regular basis. Ability to be 'on-call' status, if necessary. Valid state driver's license. Willingness and ability to pass successfully a background check which proves fitness of character for position. Cheyenne-Arapaho tribal preference.

SALARY: Negotiable

PT Recept/Transporter Domestic Violence
Closing: Until Filled

Qualifications:

Must possess a high school diploma or GED. Be willing to attend training relevant to job position. Must understand and strive to implement the programs goal, objectives, rules, and regulations. Possess communication skills, written and oral, to relate to Indian and non-Indian communities, other agencies and the general public. Must be computer literate, possess good writing skills and be able to communicate effectively. Must have the ability to maintain a wholesome ad favorable rapport with the general public, tribal members, program directors/coordinators, tribal employees and vendors. Ability to maintain a high level of confidentiality on all client matters and other matters protected by the Privacy act as well as other confidentiality regulations. OSBI and criminal background check required and be adjudicated appropriately. Must possess a current Oklahoma driver's license to operate a government owned vehicle as well as have reliable transportation. Prefer knowledge of Cheyenne and Arapaho/Native Americans cultures and values. Ability to work with difficult clientele with various social problems and/or needs.

SALARY: Negotiable

Child & Adult Protective Caseworker/Social Serv
Closing: Until Filled

Qualifications:

General knowledge of the principles, concepts and methodologies of working with this type of population. Prefer bachelor's degree in related field that affords the employee with the general knowledge required above. Will accept a combination of education and related experience. Knowledge of various laws, regulations and procedures including the Indian Child Welfare Act and the CFR Court procedures in order to effectively provide services to clients. Knowledge of tribal and community resources to refer clients to the most appropriate source of assistance. Possess communication skills, written and oral, to relate to Indian and non-Indian communities, other agencies and the general public. Ability to maintain a high level of confidentiality on all client matters and other matters protected by the Privacy Act as well as other confidentiality regulations. OSBI and criminal background check required and be adjudicated appropriately. Must possess a current Oklahoma driver's license to operate a government owned vehicle. Prefer knowledge of Cheyenne and Arapaho/Native American cultures and values. Ability to work with difficult clientele with various social problems and/or needs. Ability to work flexible hours including weekends, holidays and after 5 p.m. Cheyenne-Arapaho preference.

SALARY: Negotiable

TRIBAL TRIBUNE

DEADLINES

At 3 p.m. every 8th and 23rd of the month. Unless the 8th or 23rd falls on a weekend, it will be the Friday preceding.

Notice

All tribal offices will be closed Mon. Feb. 20, 2017 in observance of President's Day. Offices will reopen on Tuesday, Feb. 21 at 8 a.m.

Don't miss your copy of the *Tribal Tribune*.

Send address changes to Tribal Tribune, PO Box 38, Concho, Okla. 73022

NATIVE AMERICAN SCOUTING COMBINE SAVE THE DATE

10 a.m - 5:30 p.m. March 4, 2017 100 N. McCormick, Oklahoma City

Native American High School Football Players are Invited to Attend.

Top tier coaches will be on hand to evaluate the State's Top Native American Football players. This intense combine is an exciting time for athletes and a key step in achieving their dreams of playing at the next level, while improving their football skills.

For more information contact James Pryor at 928-919-1908 or email jamesdpryor@yahoo.com.

GAMING DISTRIBUTION COMPARISON 2015 - 2016

DATE	2015	2016
JAN	$ 3,181,456.15	$ 2,933,004.04
FEB	$ 4,101,126.49	$ 2,797,797.98
MAR	$ 5,024,920.25	$ 5,991,768.19
APR	$ 4,387,520.40	$ 2,977,104.18
MAY	$ 4,117,261.70	$ 2,572,224.43
JUN	$ 3,879,289.25	$ 3,432,516.23
JUL	$ 3,405,784.51	$ 2,508,535.35
AUG	$ 3,175,454.38	$ 2,597,562.26
SEP	$ 3,916,856.07	$ 3,265,443.17
OCT	$ 2,744,303.82	$ 2,396,856.33
NOV	$ 2,021,906.06	$ 1,785,827.19
DEC	$ 2,212,760.96	$ 3,213,534.96
TOTAL	$ 42,168,640.04	$ 36,472,174.31

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM
February 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	American Heart, Canned Food, & Potato Lover's Month		1	2	3	4 Homemade Soup Day
5 Superbowl Sunday	6	7 CLINTON I TAILGATE Food Demo @ Clinton 12pm	8 SEILING TAILGATE	9 HAMMON TAILGATE	10	11
12	13 Oatmeal Day	14 CLINTON II TAILGATE Food Demo @ Concho 12pm	15	16 ELK CITY TAILGATE Almond Day	17	18
19	20 CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY	21	22	23 Chili Day	24	25
26	27 CLOSED FOR INVENTORY Strawberry Day	28 CLOSED FOR INVENTORY				

OFFICE ISSUANCE: MUST SIGN IN BY 3 PM
TAILGATE ISSUANCE: MUST SIGN IN BY 1 PM
NO EXCEPTIONS!

OFFICE HOURS: 8AM to 5PM
STORE HOURS: 9AM to 3PM
OFFICE PHO: 405-422-7873
FAX: 405-422-8261

This Institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider.

EASY CHILI

2lbs ground beef
1 medium onion, diced
1 bell pepper, diced
2 tablespoons chili powder
2 cans tomato sauce
2 cans pinto beans
2 cans kidney beans
2 cans black beans
2 cans tomatoes
2 cans water (use tomato sauce cans)
Optional: cheese & sour cream

DIRECTIONS

In a skillet cook ground beef, onions & bell peppers until done.
Drain excess grease.
In a stockpot add ground beef mixture, cans of beans, water, tomatoes, tomato sauce & chili powder.
Simmer for 15 minutes.

This month the Nutrition Education Team with be in conjunction with the Greenhouse Garden Project Walking Club

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE TRIAL COURT
CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES
P.O. BOX 102
CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA FILED JAN 18 2017 IN THE TRIAL COURT DOCKET PAGE FILM IMAGE COURT CLERK DEPUTY

SCOTT ALLEN TIGER, Petitioner
vs.
PATRICIA ELIZABETH F. TIGER, Respondent
Case No: JFD-2016-0139

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes to: **PATRICIA ELIZABETH F. TIGER**

You are hereby notified that SCOTT ALLEN TIGER has filed a Petition For Dissolution of Marriage on November 18, 2016 and that said Petition is hereby set for a Hearing to be heard in the Courtroom of said Trial Court of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, 700 Black Kettle Boulevard, Concho, Oklahoma, on the 1st day of MARCH, 2017 at 10:00 A.M., at which time you may appear and show cause, if any you have, why said Divorce should not be granted.

Dated this 18TH day of JANUARY, 2017.

by: Rebekah Trojan
Rebekah Trojan, Deputy Court Clerk
Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court

IN THE TRIAL COURT
CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA
P.O. BOX 102
CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA FILED JAN 23 2017 IN THE TRIAL COURT DOCKET PAGE FILM IMAGE COURT CLERK DEPUTY

In The Matter Of The Guardianship Of:
AGNES OSAGE OLD BEAR
DOB: 8/22/27
ROLL# 2801A03497
An Alleged Incapacited Person
Case No. PG-2017-06

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes to: Harvey Old Bear, Adrian D. Davis

You are hereby notified that Louella Oldbear and Ronald Old Bear have filed in this Court a Petition For Appointment Of Guardianship of the person and/or estate of Agnes Osage Old Bear, DOB: 8/22/27, ROLL # 2801A03497 and alleged incapacitated person and that on January 23rd, 2017, the petitioners, Louella Oldbear and Ronald Old Bear were granted Temporary Emergency Co-Guardianship and that said Petition is hereby set for a hearing in the Courtroom of said Trial Court of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, 700 Black Kettle Boulevard, Concho, Oklahoma, on the 15TH day of FEBRUARY 2017 at 10:00 A.M., at which time you may appear and show cause, if any you have, why said guardianship should not be granted.

Dated this 23rd day of JANUARY, 2017,

Rebekah Trojan
Rebekah Trojan, Deputy Court Clerk
Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court

IN THE TRIAL COURT
CHEYENNE-ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA
P.O. BOX 102
CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA FILED JAN 24 2017 IN THE TRIAL COURT DOCKET PAGE FILM IMAGE COURT CLERK DEPUTY

RAMANDA LONEMAN, Petitioner,
vs.
ANTHONY SWALLOW, Respondent,
Case No: JFD-2014-0024

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

The Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes to: **ANTHONY SWALLOW**

You are hereby notified that **RAMANDA LONEMAN** has filed in this Court a Petition For Motion To Modify, and that said Petition is hereby set for a Hearing in the Court room of said Trial Court of the Cheyenne Arapaho Tribes, 700 Black Kettle Boulevard, Concho, Oklahoma, on the 15th day of MARCH, 2017 at 10:00 A.M., at which time you may appear and show cause, if any you have, why said relief should not be granted.

Dated this 24TH day of JANUARY, 2017.

Fran Wilson, Deputy Court Clerk
Cheyenne-Arapaho Trial Court

HELPING OUR PEOPLE EXCEL
HOPE

February Outreaches

SEILING
February 8, 2017
12:30 PM – 3:30 PM

WATONGA
February 22, 2017
1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

FOOD, UTILITY, RENT, MEDICAL/ICU, FUNERAL, TRIBAL TRANSIT BUS PASSES

The community outreaches are meant to serve C & A Tribal members in the outlying communities that are not able to make it to either the Concho or Clinton offices. All guidelines stand as when applying in office, so all documentation must still be provided.

ATHLETE'S SPOTLIGHT

Born in Durango, Colo., and raised in Norman, Okla., Jandra Levi, 18, continues to progress in her senior year of basketball. Standing at 5'0, she plays point guard for the varsity basketball team at Norman High School.

When did you first begin playing and how?

I first began playing at the age of 6 when my mom first started coaching, she decided to put a basketball team together. It was all my cousins, I played with no girls, they were all boys. It was pretty rough but that's how I began playing.

What is it about the sport that you love the best?

I just love the environment and how much support you have behind you and how loving the teams are.

What has been your biggest accomplishment in the sport so far?

My biggest accomplishment is getting invited to play in Australia in the summer, I got to meet so many new people. Just getting to experience and see the world and how different people play and how it changed their lives, as well as mine. Some of the differences were most of their girls were very tall, tall and fast. There wasn't much of a difference, they just played a lot of basic basketball. We were just fast and ended up moving the ball really quick, we ended up getting third and we were the only USA team to place there. It was through an organization called Down Under Sports, there were four different regions, North, East, South and West. Throughout the regions they picked 10 girls and only two girls were from Oklahoma.

What is your biggest accomplishment in the classroom so far?

Just being on top of stuff, turning work in and getting to know my teachers where they'll give me some time if I need it to turn papers in late. It's always been a good deal.

What is your GPA (if known)?

3.0

What goals have you set for yourself in sports, school?

I would like to go to college and play basketball, I have so many people who look up to me. Not just my cousins but a lot of younger people just in the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribe as well. I've been playing for R.E.Sp.E.C.T. since the first or second grade too. For school, I keep track of my grade and turn my papers in. Also, helping other students out if they need it.

What actions are you taking to reach these goals?

I always look over my goals and make sure I'm on track, just reviewing what I need to do. Making sure I get it done.

What has been the most exciting game you have played in?

My Junior year, it was our last High North (Norman North) game and we ended up beating them by two. Most people didn't want us to win and they really didn't know if we were going to win or not, we were basically the under dogs last year, so whenever we got that win we shocked them.

What is the best advice you have ever been given and who gave you that advice?

The best advice I have ever been given is just play your game, keep your head up, you know what you got to do, make sure you do the right things, look for the open person, don't be selfish with the ball, share the ball and make sure everybody touches it. My mom gave me that advice and she gives me advice like that before every game.

Do you have a saying or motto that you live your life by?

Not really, I just kind of wake up everyday and just being blessed that I'm here and just thank my family for the support.

Who or what inspires you the most?

A lot of people, I grew up watching basketball since I was a baby and I've watched so many people. The people who inspire me the most are Tahnee Robinson, Angel Woodridge. Some of my close cousins, one is Justina Prairiechief. Also, Jude and Shoni Schimmel because I had actually gotten close to their family, we sat down and talked them, it was a really good experience. Not just being close with their family but them being close with my family as well.

What does your routine workout consist of to stay fit for your sport? How often?

Eating and drinking a lot of healthy stuff and also just having a good two and a half hour practices and staying after and shooting, running, just keeping on task. I work out everyday.

What are one or two things in your training, that you feel are keys to you being successful in your sport?

One for me is always being focused no matter what, even if you have to do the little things, do them. If you stay focused, you're better at being successful.

What is your favorite meal before or after a game?

Spaghetti is my top favorites

Who has had the biggest impact on your life?

My mom, she's just always been there through everything, she's supported me and fund raised for me a lot.

What are some of your hobbies (what do you like to do when not playing sports)?

Hanging around with family, sleeping, watching movies, just having family time.

What kinds of music do you enjoy listening to?

R&B and Hip-Hop

What is one thing about you that no one else knows?

That I know how to knit, I've knitted scarves before.

Were you ever bullied in school? What steps do you feel should be taken to protect those being bullied in schools today?

I would just say talk about it, speak to somebody about it because if you are there's not a way for anyone to ever know. If you actually say something, somebody will know and say something for you.

How do you combat drug & alcohol use by peer pressure?

Just say no and walk away, it will do you no good.

If you could change one thing in the world, what would it be?

Probably my height, just because, yes I like being short but it also has its hard times, everyday. Even in school, I can never see where I'm going, I just have to know where I'm going to get there.

What would be a dream come true for you in your life?

Getting to compete at the higher level, in basketball and higher education. There are some colleges actually looking at me, I just haven't gotten to reach out to them, but I'm looking into them.

Who is your favorite athlete of all time?

My great grandpa, because he actually played for the undefeated Haskell team, he also got drafted for the New York Yankees in baseball. His name was John Levi.

Which team is your favorite team?

Oklahoma

What are your immediate plans after graduating high school?

Going to a college, no matter what division it is and finishing up, getting my degree and being bale to give back to my community. I want to go into something within the Business area.

What would be your advice to younger kids coming up behind you?

Just to stay focused on your goals because anybody can reach them as long as you're focused, you can be successful in anything.

Jandra's mother is Christine Levi; her grandparents are Curtis Levi and Carolyn Levi. Jandra has two brothers, Isaiah Tallbear, 10, and Blake Tallbear, 2.

Open Your Home and Your Heart
for a child in need
Become A Foster Parent
You can Make a Difference. Our Culture Matters
Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribes'
Foster Home Recruitment
Friday Feb. 10, 2017
11 am - 2 pm
Clinton Community Center / Clinton, OK
Food & Drinks Will Be Provided
CALL NOW FOR INFORMATION OR APPLICATION
405.422.7592 or
405.431.8951

CU Boulder researchers lead bid to save vanishing Arapaho language

New online dictionary to be followed by print version

By Charlie Brennan

An effort is underway to save one of the oldest languages to have been spoken in the Boulder Valley.

Its name is common in this community, with a slightly altered spelling, attached to a key east-west thoroughfare, as well as a peak that glistens with snow to the west in the Indian Peaks Wilderness.

But Arapaho as a language is highly endangered, and a project based at the University of Colorado could prove pivotal in saving it from vanishing forever.

Andrew Cowell, chair of CU's Department of Linguistics, presides over what is called the Arapaho Language Project, and he is doing all he can to save a language spoken now by probably only 200 people in the world.

Although the Arapaho Language Project was launched in 2002, it was buttressed over the recent winter break with the addition of an online Arapaho dictionary, showing an Arapaho-English translation for about 30,000 words.

It is the first thorough dictionary of the language ever compiled, Cowell said, to be followed by a print version within two years.

"I'm really interested in trying to make it one of the best documented languages, so that even if it does disappear, there will be a rich collection of stories and songs, so that it will still have life, even if it isn't spoken fluently," Cowell said.

But he and his colleagues are doing all they can to ensure that it doesn't go away.

"The Arapaho people themselves are very concerned that it be saved," Cowell said. "They see it as a clear connection to their past, to their culture and identity and a connection to their ancestors."

Languages are dying at rapid pace

Cowell said members of both the Northern Arapaho and Southern Arapaho tribes frequented the Boulder Valley, and that when the first settlers arrived in Boulder in 1856, they found an Arapaho encampment at the foot of Boulder Canyon, at what until recently was named Settlers Park.

The park was occupied in 1858 by gold prospectors, who promised a Southern Arapaho chief they would leave by the following year. They soon broke that promise by staking claim to the land and founding the Boulder City Town Company.

There are now about 7,000 enrolled members of the Northern Arapaho living on the Wind River reservation in Wyoming, and another 13,000 members of the Southern Arapaho and Cheyenne tribes in western Oklahoma.

Cowell, who has done the bulk of his research on the subject at the Wind River Reservation, said there are only about 200 people left who speak the Arapaho language or Hinono'eitiit, and none of them are under 60 years old.

"I think this can prove successful in making sure it doesn't go away," Cowell said of the project, "and it can increase the number of people who have some knowledge of the language. There may not be many new fluent speakers, but they can understand some of the words, and start to understand some of their stories, and so forth."

One of Cowell's partners in the project is Russian-born Irina Wagner, a third-year doctoral student at CU whose research focus is the Arapaho language and its revitalization. She has been involved in that field of study for four years, she said, and spent the last two-and-a-half years focused on assembling the recently added dictionary.

"I started in this because I am really interested in Native American languages and I am really personally concerned with the idea of language," she said. "There are 6,000 languages in the world, and a language dies every two weeks. That's what they usually say. I know of elders who have died, and who were the last speakers of their language. That really bothered me."

Wagner, who has been in the U.S. for nine years and grew up speaking both Russian and Tatar, concurs with Cowell that Arapaho is an extremely complex tongue.

"English is 100 times easier," said Wagner, who despite her years of study admits to knowing only "how to read and, a little bit, write" Arapaho. "Speaking is really hard. I can do really simple phrases, everyday phrases such as 'Thank you, How are you, I'd like to eat, I am hungry.'"

The Arapaho language has just 16 letters, Cowell said. But its complexity comes into play, for example, with the fact the language often combines two or three different ideas in the same word.

"What you'll find is that there is one word for 'walk slowly,' another for 'walk quickly,' another for 'walk away' and another for 'walk sideways,'" with the result that there are more than 50 different words meaning "walk," he said.

The language, he added, is polysynthetic, meaning that words tend to combine multiple ideas into a single word.

"That's what makes it really complex. One word in Arapaho usually translates into three or four English words," Cowell said. "There's cases where one Arapaho word translates into eight or nine English words."

Cowell said there are 300,000 ways to say 'see,' with variants for 'see clearly,' 'see badly' and so on.

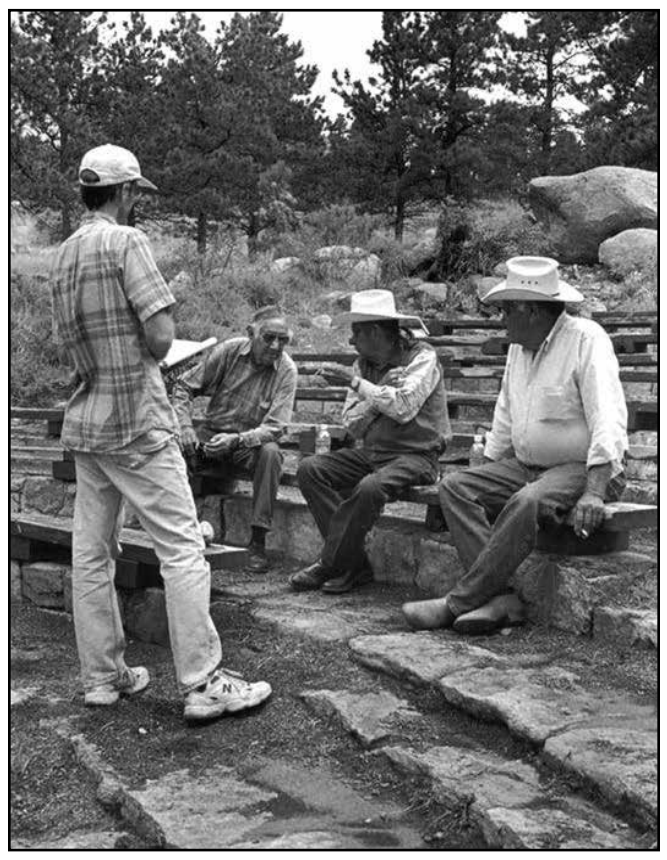
While the language has just 16 letters, it also has a numeral; three is used to represent a sound roughly translating as 'th,' as in 'three.'

The website has many practical features, ranging from a specialized glossary button for a trip to the casino to a video, future new content will include more use of YouTube on how a negotiation at a car dealership might be conducted.

There's even a translation of every NFL team name, although there won't be much use for Neeyeito'oyei3i, that's "Broncos," translated as "they buck people off," until late this summer.

"The Arapaho people themselves are very concerned that it be saved," said Cowell, who credits great continuing support from the Arapaho tribal members on his research trips to the Wind River Reservation.

"They see it as a clear connection to their past, to their culture and identity and connection to their ancestors."



Andrew Cowell, chair of the University of Colorado Department of Linguistics, works with three Arapaho elders in Rocky Mountain National Park, documenting place names there. (Sara Wiles / Courtesy photo)

This WEEK at
LuckyStar CASINO
CONCHO • CLINTON • CANTON • WATONGA
CONCHO TRAVEL CENTER • HAMMON TRAVEL CENTER
MONDAY
MEN'S DAY
2 PTS FOR $10
10AM – 11PM
TUESDAY
LAST MAN Standing
EVERY HOUR
10AM – 11PM
WEDNESDAY
MATCH & WIN
EVERY HOUR
WIN UP TO $1199
10AM – 11PM
THURSDAY
LadiesDay
2 PTS FOR $10
10AM – 11PM
FRIDAY
FAST FRIDAYS
$25 HOT SEATS
EVERY HALF HOUR
10AM – 11PM
SATURDAY
PLAYER'S CHOICE
10AM – 11PM
SUNDAY
Senior's 55+ Day
2 PTS FOR $10
10AM – 11PM
LuckyStar CASINO
LUCKY STAR 500
WE'RE GIVING AWAY YOUR CHOICE OF TRIP TO THE DAYTONA 500, NAPA VALLEY, DEL MAR RACETRACK OR COUNTRY MUSIC AWARDS!
TRIP GIVEAWAYS ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH AND THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH AT 8:30PM.
EARN ENTRIES FROM JANUARY 22 - FEBRUARY 16
10 POINTS = 1 DRAWING ENTRY
One entry per player per day. Must be redeemed during Player's Club hours.
Must be a Star Card Player. One promo per person, per day. See Player's Club for details.
CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES
LuckyStarCasino.org | See Player's Club for Details.
Promotions valid during Player's Club hours. One promo per person, per day. Management reserves all rights to cancel or modify any or all